

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /007 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:RTMCMAHAN:MFR
APPROVED BY EA/PRCM:HETTHAYER
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
EA ONLY

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R 060325Z NOV 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 273903

STADIS/////////
LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EQIP, APUB, SOPN, BEXP, SCUL, CH, US

SUBJECT: EXCERPTS FROM EA/PRCM WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. THE MARXIFICATION OF MAO (CONFIDENTIAL)

A SUBTLE PROCESS OF DE-MAOIFICATION APPEARS UNDERWAY IN CHINA IN WHICH THE "GREAT LEADER AND TEACHER" IS GRADUALLY BEING RELEGATED TO THE STATUS OF A MARXIST-LENINIST SAGE, WISE IN HIS OWN RIGHT BUT NOT THE SOLE FOUNT OF WISDOM. IN AN INTRIGUING EXAMPLE OF THIS TREND, AN EDITORIAL ARTICLE IN THE LIBERATION ARMY DAILY OCTOBER 29 OBSERVED: "MARXISM-LENINISM HOLDS THAT 'THE PEOPLE, AND THE PEOPLE ALONE, ARE THE MOTIVE FORCE IN THE MAKING OF WORLD HISTORY.'" THIS IS, OF COURSE, A MAO QUOTE, WHICH IN ITS ORIGINAL CONTEXT (MAO'S 1945 ESSAY "ON COALITION GOVERNMENT") WAS NOT RELATED IN ANY WAY TO MARXISM-LENINISM. OF EQUAL SIGNIFICANCE, THE LIBERATION ARMY DAILY ARTICLE QUOTED LENIN THREE TIMES AS THE AUTHORITY FOR PARTICULAR

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POINTS.

OBVIOUSLY, CHINA HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE HEIGHT OF THE MAO CULT DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, BUT THE

DURING SEPTEMBER WAS ONE OF THE FIRST SIGNS SPOTTED BY THE CONGEN AND USLO SUGGESTING THE EXISTENCE OF UNRESOLVED DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE LEADERSHIP. THE MODERATES ARE NOW ON TOP, AND IF THE TREND CONTINUES TOWARD TREATING MAO AS ONLY ONE OF THE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE GREAT BODY OF MARXIST-LENINIST THOUGHT, THIS WILL HAVE INTERESTING IMPLICATIONS NOT ONLY FOR MAO'S OWN POSTHUMOUS STATUS IN CHINA BUT ALSO FOR THE IDEOLOGICAL DISPUTE BETWEEN MOSCOW AND PEKING.

2. CDC...AND OTHER COMPUTERS (CONFIDENTIAL)

A CDC REPRESENTATIVE SIGNED THE FINAL CONTRACT WITH THE PRC ON NOVEMBER 2, THUS LAYING TO REST ANY CONCERN THAT PUBLICITY ON THE CDC CASE MIGHT SOMEHOW DERAIL THE FINAL NEGOTIATIONS IN PEKING. OUR COCOM DELEGATE HAS NOW WITHDRAWN THE EARLIER US RESERVATION WITH RESPECT TO THE CDC SALE. IN RETURN, THE FRENCH HAVE WITHDRAWN THEIR OBJECTIONS TO ANOTHER US COMPUTER SALE TO CHINA (THE "DRESSER CASE"), WHICH THEY WERE HOLDING HOSTAGE TO THE CDC CASE. MEANWHILE, IBM HAS SOLD THE CHINESE A COMPUTER TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH AN ITALIAN-MADE INDUSTRIAL TURBINE FACTORY, AND USLO REPORTS THAT ANOTHER FIRM (DIGITAL RESOURCES) HAS SOLD THE PRC ANOTHER COMPUTER FOR SEISMIC OIL EXPLORATION. WE WILL NOT KNOW WHAT (IF ANY) EXPORT CONTROL PROBLEMS WILL BE ENTAILED BY THESE NEW SALES UNTIL THE COMPANIES SUBMIT DETAILED APPLICATIONS AND COMMERCE COMPLETES ITS TECHNICAL EVALUATION.

3. FBIS AND THE PRESS MONITORING UNIT IN HONG KONG (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

WE HELD AN INFORMAL MEETING THIS WEEK WITH FBIS REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS A PROPOSAL THAT FBIS TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR PUBLISHING THE OUTPUT OF THE PRESS MONITORING UNIT (PMU) IN HONG KONG IN THE DAILY "GREEN
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BOOK." PMU'S OUTPUT NOW REACHES THE WASHINGTON COMMUNITY SEVERAL WEEKS LATE, AND WE ARE ENDEAVORING TO FIND SOME SYSTEM THAT WILL MAKE THIS MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO END-USERS MORE PROMPTLY. AMCONGEN HONG KONG HAS ENDORSED THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH FBIS NOW HAS UNDER REVIEW.

4. CHINA CONFERENCES IN WASHINGTON (UNCLASSIFIED)

THE US-CHINA PEOPLE'S FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION (TOGETHER
WITH COSPONSORS SUCH AS THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE

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COMMITTEE, THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE,
AND THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ILLINOIS) WILL HOST A
CONFERENCE AT THE WASHINGTON HILTON DECEMBER 10-11
ENTITLED, "THE TIME HAS COME...". THE REST OF THE
SENTENCE PRESUMABLY IS "TO IMPLEMENT THE SHANGHAI
COMMUNIQUE AND ESTABLISH FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA." ANOTHER CONFERENCE
ENTITLED "THE US AND CHINA AFTER MAO" WILL BE HELD
NOVEMBER 30 AT THE MAYFLOWER HOTEL. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE
SENATOR FONG, WALTER MCCONAUGHY, RAY CLINE, FRANZ
MICHAEL, AND TILL DURDIN, ALONG WITH AMERICAN LEGION AND
AFL-CIO REPRESENTATIVES. WE ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN
EITHER AFFAIR.

OTHER ITEMS COVERED

5. CANTON FAIR (LOU)
6. TRADE WITH US (LOU)
7. PRC ASTRONOMY DELEGATION (U)
8. CODEL CURTIS (LOU)

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, POLITICAL LEADERS, MARXISM, COMPUTERS, CONTRACTS, TRADE FAIRS, CODELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE273903
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RTMCMAHAN:MFR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760414-0749
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761173/aaaackli.tel
Line Count: 144
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 APR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCERPTS FROM EA/PRCM WEEKLY STATUS REPORT
TAGS: PINT, EQUIP, APUB, SOPN, BEXP, SCUL, CH, US, (MAO TSE-TUNG)
To: PEKING HONG KONG
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006